

**Senate File 304 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 304

BY CARLIN and GOODWIN

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to applicant priority and grant award amounts  
2 under the teach Iowa scholar program.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 261.110, subsections 2 and 4, Code 2021,  
2 are amended to read as follows:

3 2. An Iowa resident or nonresident applicant shall be  
4 eligible for a teach Iowa scholar grant if the applicant  
5 meets all of the criteria specified under, or established in  
6 accordance with, [subsection 3](#). Priority shall be given first  
7 to applicants seeking to renew their grant awards and who  
8 continue to meet the original priority criteria under which  
9 such applicants' first awards were received; then to applicants  
10 who are graduates of approved practitioner preparation  
11 programs, by academic year, with the most recent academic year  
12 graduates given priority; then to applicants who are minority  
13 persons and residents of Iowa; then to applicants who are  
14 residents of Iowa. A person is ineligible for this program if  
15 the person receives a forgivable loan under [section 261.111](#) or  
16 loan forgiveness under [section 261.112](#). For purposes of this  
17 section, "minority person" means the same as defined in section  
18 15.102.

19 4. A selected applicant who meets all of the eligibility  
20 requirements of [this section](#) shall be eligible for a teach  
21 Iowa scholar grant for each year of full-time employment  
22 completed in this state as a teacher for a school district,  
23 charter school, area education agency, or accredited nonpublic  
24 school. A teach Iowa scholar grant shall not exceed ~~four~~ seven  
25 thousand five hundred dollars per year per recipient. Grants  
26 awarded under [this section](#) shall not exceed a total of ~~twenty~~  
27 thirty-seven thousand five hundred dollars per recipient over  
28 a five-year period. If a selected applicant has received a  
29 federally guaranteed Stafford loan under the federal family  
30 education loan program or the federal direct loan program,  
31 a federal direct plus loan, or a federal Perkins loan, the  
32 selected applicant may elect to have the commission make  
33 payment under the program directly to the selected applicant's  
34 student loan holder.

35

EXPLANATION

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1           The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
2           the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

3       This bill modifies the teach Iowa scholar program to give  
4 first priority to applicants seeking renewal of their grant  
5 awards, then to applicants who are graduates of approved  
6 practitioner preparation programs, then to applicants who are  
7 minority persons, with subsequent priority to residents of  
8 Iowa, and raises the annual grant limitation from \$4,000 to  
9 \$7,500 and the total grant limitation over a five-year period  
10 from \$20,000 to \$37,500.

11       Currently, priority is given to residents of Iowa.